

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
17 February 2005 (17.02.2005)

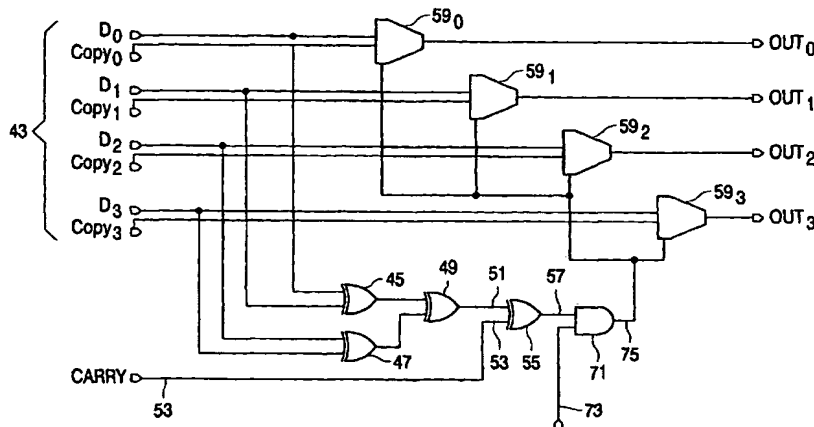
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/015415 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G06F 13/40** **NIEUWLAND, Andre, K.** [NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).
- (21) International Application Number: **PCT/IB2004/051404** (74) Agent: **ELEVELD, Koop, J.**; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).
- (22) International Filing Date: **5 August 2004 (05.08.2004)** (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (25) Filing Language: **English**
- (26) Publication Language: **English**
- (30) Priority Data: **03102499.5** **12 August 2003 (12.08.2003)** **EP**
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(54) Title: **DECODER CIRCUIT**



(57) Abstract: A decoder circuit, for example a dual-rail decoder, receives input signals (43) from the end of a communications bus (not shown). The parity is calculated over the data wires (D_0 , D_1 , D_2 , D_3) using exclusive OR gates (45, 47 and 49). The calculated data parity signal (51) is compared with a transmitted parity signal (53) (shown as "carry") in an exclusive OR gate (55). Rather than connecting the control signal (57) from the exclusive OR gate (55) directly to the multiplexers (590, 591, 592, 593), the control signal (57) is instead connected to a gating circuit (71). The gating circuit (71), for example a AND gate, receives the control signal (57) as a first input signal. The gating circuit (71) also receives a second input signal in the form of a gating control signal (73). The gating control signal (73) is delayed by a predetermined amount, for example corresponding to the worst case delay of the signals in the input data signals (43). Thus, the gating control signal (73) does not control the gating circuit until such time as all of the data signals are valid, ie until the last transition on the data signal (43) has occurred, thereby preventing glitches and reducing power consumption in the decoder circuit.

**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE,

IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

Published:

— with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
12 May 2005

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.